

Small- and Disadvantaged-Businesses: Classifications and Definitions



Small Business (S)

You can quickly determine if you qualify as a “small” business by using the SBA’s *North American Industry Classification Code* (NAICS) or *Standard Industry Classification* (SIC) code-lookup table. Simply enter your business description or NAICS/SIC code, then use the resulting table to locate your products/services and see the size standards for your business type.

Here’s the link: https://eweb1.sba.gov/naics/dsp_naicssearch2.cfm.

Simply enter your product or service in the description area and then locate your business area.



8a Program

This is a business-development program created to help small disadvantaged businesses compete in the American economy and access the federal-procurement market.



Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB)

While the 8(a) program offers a broad scope of assistance to socially and economically disadvantaged firms, *SDB certification* strictly pertains to benefits in federal procurement. 8(a) firms automatically qualify for SDB certification. ***As of July 1, 1999, self-certification is no longer acceptable for small disadvantaged business (SDB) enterprises.*** Businesses must apply for small/disadvantaged status through their local Small-Business Administration office or one of their approved vendors. Applications can be found on the SBA website at www.sba.gov; follow the links to *Small Disadvantaged Business*.

You may also request a copy by calling 202.619.1850 or by writing to the U.S. Small-Business Administration, Office of Small/Disadvantaged Business Certification & Eligibility, 409 Third Street SW, Washington DC 20416. After receipt of your SBA certification, please forward a copy to the attention of Stephanie Caldwell, Absher Construction Company, POB 280, Puyallup WA 98371, or send via fax to 253.841.0925.

(continued...)



- ▶ Women-Owned Business (WOSB)**
This is a small-business concern (a) which is at least 51% owned by one or more women; or, in the case of any publicly owned business, at least 51% of the stock of which is owned by one or more women; and (b) whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more women.
- ▶ Veteran-Owned Business (SV)**
This is a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.
- ▶ Service Disabled Veteran-Owned (SDVOSB)**
This is a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable, and whose disability was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval or air service.
- ▶ Historically Black Colleges & Universities/Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI)**
The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, defines an HBCU as “*any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964 whose principal mission is the education of black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accredited agency or association determined by the Secretary of Education to be a reliable authority as to the quality of training offered, or is according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation.*”
- ▶ HUBZone (Historically Underutilized Business Zone)**
The HUBZone Empowerment Contracting Program stimulates economic development and creates jobs in urban and rural communities by providing federal contracting preferences to small businesses. These preferences go to small businesses that obtain HUBZone certification in part by employing staff who live in a HUBZone. The company must also maintain a “principal office” in one of these specially designated areas. (A principal office can be different from a company headquarters, as explained in our FAQ section.) **As of July 1, 1999, self-certification is no longer acceptable for HUBZone enterprises.** You may also request a copy by calling 202.619.1850 or by writing to the U.S. Small-Business Administration, Office of Small/Disadvantaged Business Certification & Eligibility, 409 Third Street SW, Washington DC 20416. After receipt of your SBA certification, please forward a copy to the attention of Stephanie Caldwell, Absher Construction Company, POB 280, Puyallup WA 98371, or send via fax to 253.841.0925.

(continued...)



▶ Alaska Native Corporation (ANC)

This is any regional, corporation, corporation or group corporation organized under the laws of the State of Alaska in accordance with the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, as amended (43 U.S.C.A. 1601, et seq.) and which is considered a minority and economically disadvantaged concern under the criteria at 43 U.S.C. 1626(e)(1). This definition also includes ANC direct and indirect subsidiary corporations, joint ventures and partnerships that meet the requirements of 43 U.S.C. 1626(e) (2).

▶ Indian Tribe

This is any Indian tribe, band, group, pueblo or community, including native villages and native groups (including corporations organized by Kenai, Juneau, Sitka, and Kodiak) as defined in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C.A. 1601 et seq.), that is recognized by the federal government as being eligible for services from the Bureau of Indian Affairs in accordance with 25 U.S.C. 1452(c). This definition also includes Indian-owned economic enterprises that meet the requirements of 25 U.S.C. 1452(e).

▶ Northern-American Industry Classification System (NAICS)

The SBA's size standards define whether a business entity is small and thus eligible for government programs and preferences reserved for "small business" concerns. Size standards have been established for all for-profit economic activities, or industries, in the NAICS. *NAICS replaced the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) System in October 2000.*

.....

For additional information, feel free to contact Absher's Community-Outreach Coordinator, Stephanie Caldwell, at 253.845.9544 or by e-mail at stephanie.caldwell@AbsherNW.com.